

REMARKS

Status of Claims

This is a preliminary amendment before the first Office Action.

Claims 1- 39 are pending following the first Preliminary Amendment filed with the application on August 7, 2006. Claims 1, 2, 18, 23-29 and 31-34 are the independent claims.

The specification is amended to add paragraph numbering and in order to make the application conform to U.S. practice and to proper idiomatic English. No new matter has been added.

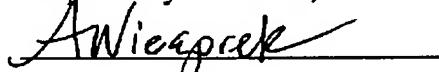
Conclusion

Applicant submits Claims 1-39 are in condition for examination, early notification of which is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of this Amendment or of the application at large, request is made that the Examiner telephone the Applicant's attorney at (619) 846-4850 in order that any outstanding issues be resolved.

Fees

If there are any fees due and owing in respect to this amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge such fees to deposit account number 50-1047.

Respectfully submitted,



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